

North Providence School Department

Spring/Summer Newsletter 2021

2240 Mineral Spring Avenue, North Providence, RI 02911

401-233-1100

www.nprovschools.org

A Message from the Superintendent: Greetings North Providence families. As we conclude a school year like no other, I want to take a moment as Superintendent to thank our entire North Providence educational community for successfully meeting the unprecedented challenges of COVID-19. Our students, families, and staff members worked incredibly hard to ensure that our schools remained safe places where high quality teaching and learning could occur daily amid rapidly changing circumstances. As we head into the summer to rest, recharge, and enjoy so many things that we have missed during the pandemic, the North Providence School Department will be focused on preparations for a full return to school in September. In the meantime, I want to thank all stakeholders for the vital role each of you played in supporting our students in true North Providence spirit. Please be sure to enjoy the summer, as well as the company of friends and family! *Joseph B. Goho, Superintendent*



A Message from the Assistant Superintendent: What an amazing year we have had in North Providence!! We are so grateful to our entire school community for all of their hard work, dedication and perseverance during this most challenging yet successful school year! This year we continue to make great strides in our curriculum. We have piloted and are now implementing next year our new ELA curriculum at the Elementary level, [Wonders 2020](#) , [Amplify Science](#) for our Science curriculum in Grades K - 8, and [Reveal Math](#) for our Middle School Math curriculum. All of these programs are high quality curricula and we are so excited to begin our implementation in 2021-2022. In addition, we have continued to add to our social emotional learning, cultural responsiveness strategies, and blended learning tools to ensure a well rounded and 21st century education that will continue to prepare our students for college and careers. 36 of our P-TECH NPHS students graduated with our class of 2021! Of the 36 students, 12 of them also received an Associate Degree in General Studies/Health Science from CCRI. 12 of them are now CNA certified and ready for jobs in health care. Congratulations to all of our NPHS Seniors - Class of 2021! Please check out our [district social emotional learning webpage](#) with terrific resources for students, families, and staff. We have received positive recognition from the RI Department of Education for our work in social emotional learning which demonstrates our focus on our students' education on all levels. We are excited to offer several Summer Learning opportunities from elementary to high school. Here is a link to our [district Summer learning activities](#) for all of our students too! Wishing you and your families a healthy, safe, and fun summer! See you in late August! ***Louise K. Seitsinger, Assistant Superintendent***



A Message from the Director of Student Services:

The end of the school year is always a great time to reflect on all of the wonderful accomplishments of the year. The 2020-2021 school year was filled with obstacles and barriers that encouraged an increase in creativity, communication, and compassion for all learners. I am exceptionally proud of our faculty, staff, community, students, and our North Providence parents for collaborating together with us to provide the best education during a pandemic.

As we enter the 2021-2022 school year, I am encouraging all of you to access the North Providence Special Education webpage to stay informed of upcoming events, training opportunities, and Special Education initiatives. <https://www.npsdspecialled.org/>

Our North Providence Special Education Advisory Committee is seeking a dynamic parent to chair alongside our leadership team.

The mission of the North Providence Special Education Local Advisory Committee is to:

- Improve communication among parents, staff, administrators, schools and School Committee on special education needs through the promotion of a team concept.
- Advocate for partnerships with parents of students with disabilities to ensure that they receive the entitlements provided to them under state and federal laws.
- Inform the community of North Providence through the North Providence School Committee about current special education services, meeting needs, future plans, state and federal funding applications, and the evaluation and monitoring of outcomes of special education programs.
- Encourage a greater understanding, acceptance, compassion, and inclusion of children with special education.

If interested please contact: Denise DeCesare denise.decesare@npsd.k12.ri.us

Enjoy the Summer,

Cynthia VanAvery, Director of Student Services

October 2020 Buddy Bench Ceremony at Stephen Olney School



Whelan's Buddy Bench



North Providence High School

We, as a North Providence High School community, managed to come together and persevere for each other and especially for the Graduates of the Class of 2021. We grew stronger by working together this past school year. We managed to adhere to all of the guidelines that were required of us and managed to sneak in a few fun times as well. As the school year went on we were able to welcome back more students. The highlight of our year was being able to add some "usual" events to our calendar. We celebrated with our senior inductees to the National Honor Society. Grades 11 and 12 were able to have their proms this year. All of our sports were able to have their seasons throughout the course of the school year. Thirty-eight students received their pathways endorsement, a first in the history of NPHS. Twelve students earned their Associate's Degree from CCRI. On June 12 we celebrated with the Class of 2021 as they graduated in person as a class together! I am happy to say that eighty-eight students received the Commissioner's Seal for excellence in both literacy and numeracy. As we look back on our school year we are happy to call it a success and most importantly that we did it together! Have a safe and restful summer.

Principal Christin Magill



Congratulations to the Top Ten Students of the Class of 2020

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Aiden Iacobucci | 6. Christopher Grivers |
| 2. Samantha Williams | 7. Emma Buttiner |
| 3. Olivia Avelino | 8. Abigail Angelone |
| 4. Amna Khan | 9. Jeremy Gervais |
| 5. Cassandra Travis | 10. Sahil Puthawala |

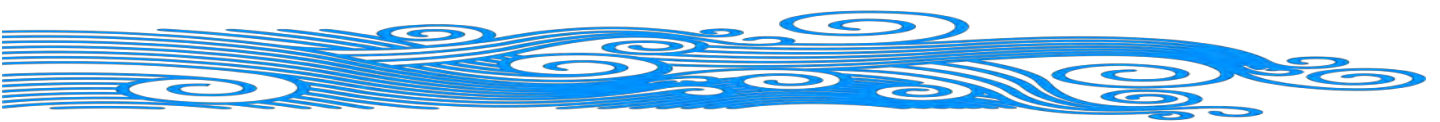
Birchwood Middle School

Birchwood Middle School continued to celebrate our Students of the Month during the school year. Although we were not able to have all the family members join us in person, we did so virtually. We continued to recognize our student's achievements in all subject areas.

Birchwood Middle School celebrated Mrs. Hogan's last day of school before her retirement. The students lined the hallways to celebrate Mrs. Hogan's last walkout. The Birchwood community celebrated her dedication to the students and families of North Providence.

Birchwood Middle School celebrated its 8th Grade students moving on to high school with a certificate distribution held at the middle school. Families were able to take pictures with their 8th Grade students in front of our balloon backdrop as well as with the faculty and staff of Birchwood. Our new round-about garden and walkway served as the focal point of our celebration. We wish all our 8th Grade student's success as they move onto the next phase of their education.

Principal Brian Gilmore



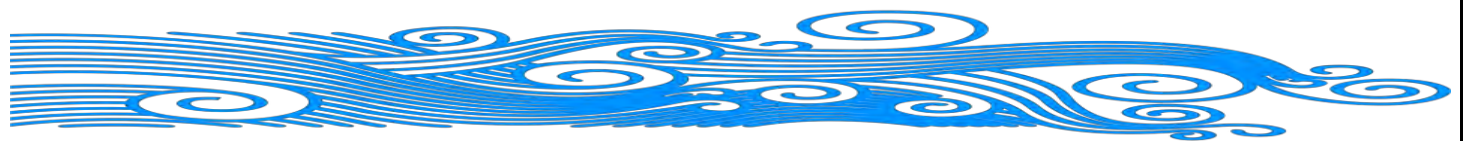
Ricci Middle School

Students at Ricci Middle School finished the 2020/2021 school year in epic fashion and were able to make positive impacts at the school and the surrounding community. On May 3rd students planted fifty saplings as part of an environmental grant to help offset the use of paper that a typical school consumes on a yearly basis. In early June Ricci Middle School students embarked on an all school field trip to clean Evan's Field.

On our Medical Detectives Pathways Team, students dissected sheep brains, learned how to take vital signs, and researched how viruses spread.

To conclude the 2020/2021 school campaign our 8th graders had a cookout and a drive through graduation to celebrate all of their hard work and success of completing middle school. On the last day of school at Ricci, 6th and 7th graders competed in multiple "competitive events" to determine which advisory class would be crowned "Champions of Field Day". We would like to wish everyone a fun, safe and adventure filled summer! Rest up for 2022! We have much more in store.!

Principal Thomas Mellen



Centredale Elementary School

At Centredale we believe that highlighting our students' accomplishments is key to creating a culture of success and hard work. Throughout this very difficult year, Centredale students and staff focused on the positive aspects of returning to school. Our teachers and staff once again persevered and met the challenges presented by tackling in person and distance learning simultaneously. Teachers in second grade were able to create learning opportunities in which students collaborated with at home learners as well as those in person. Our reading specialists creatively set up a system in which students were able to participate in the “Rooster Games” challenge, while ensuring that stable pods were not compromised. Our PBIS team ensured that our students still had the opportunity to celebrate our monthly school wide event. Some of these events included school wide art activities, virtual bingo night with families, a “read and chill” end of year event, to name a few. In addition, our team created a special recognition award to honor our at home distance learners who were able to access their education remotely, with fidelity and strength. We are proud to be Centredale Stingers!

Principal Donna Hanley



Collaboration with at home learners



Rooster Games 2021



Award for Distance Learners



“Read and Chill” Frozen lemonade and a Good Book

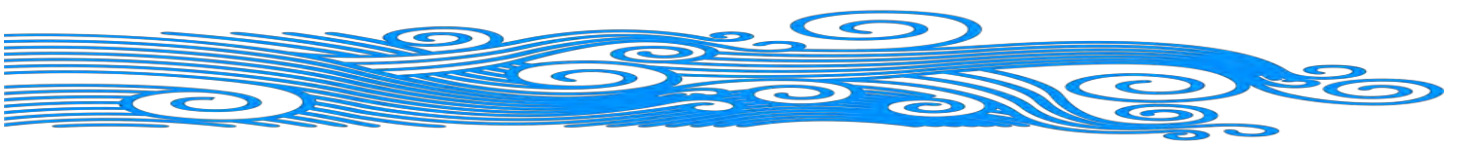
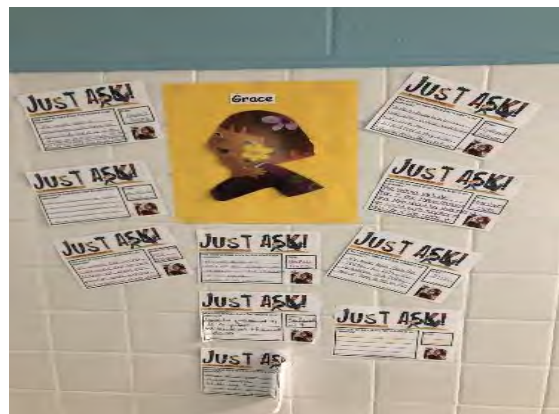


Centredale Teachers Rock!

Greystone Elementary

Greystone Elementary School students engaged in high quality learning opportunities during the last trimester of the 20-21 school year. Students participated in Field Day planned by physical education teachers, Mr. Bello and Mr. Melikian, as well as kindergarten teacher Mrs. Graziano. Our PreK students also participated in a fun-filled day planned by their teachers! Students also took part in a “Differing Abilities Week” organized by our Special Olympics Action Team. All Students read the book “*Just Ask*” by *Sonia Sotomayor* to learn about various disabilities and wore different colors during the week to raise awareness each day. In June, students and families were invited to a virtual trivia night to celebrate our “One School, One Book” event. Through a generous donation from the Greystone PTA, every family received a copy of “*The World According to Humphrey*” by Betty Birney. Greystone tigers also participated in “Mindful Monday” on June 21st, part of the day was spent with a certified yoga instructor. During our last week, we formally celebrated our kindergarten and fifth grade students. Families were able to attend an outdoor event to honor their children’s accomplishments this year. Here at Greystone we wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer! See you in late August!

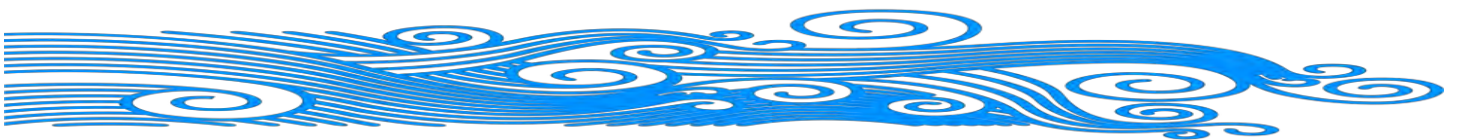
Principal Stefanie Lafleur



McGuire Elementary School

McGuire School has successfully met and exceeded the challenges of this global pandemic! From day one, we implemented strict and attainable health measures to ensure the safety of our students and staff. Our faculty and staff were available 24/7 to assist students and their families with any necessary support (academic and social emotional) needed during this unprecedented school year. We started off the year with 115 Distance Learning students and finished the school year with only 20. This is credited to our efforts to bring students back to a safe and effective “in person” learning environment. Even though social distancing and mask wearing had its toll on our students, McGuire School continued to provide some fun along the way. Students participated in many joyful activities and events throughout the year. Some included Reading Week, online school assemblies, Jump Rope for Heart, and field day. We will look back on 2020-2021 and remember our perseverance. We look forward to 2021-2022 with new endeavors and encouragement.

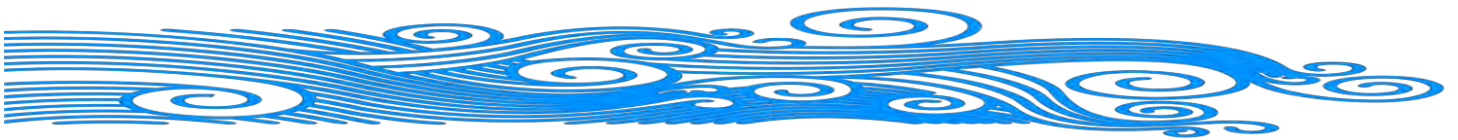
Principal Bruce Butler



Stephen Olney Elementary School

Our staff created a celebratory end to a challenging school year. Our students in Kindergarten and Grade 5 had their Moving On/Moving Up Ceremonies, in person! We were happy that our families were able to experience these events with their children. Teachers created a "Ten Day Countdown" to the end of the school year, with a theme day for each of the ten days including; "Camp Day", "Beach Day", and "Movie Days". Our PTO surprised us with lemonade, which students and staff enjoyed on our last week of school. Finally, Mrs. Federici, who has retired, led the fifth graders on a final walk through of the building, as they were cheered on by our school community. Students spent the last days of school happy, laughing and filled with joy. Our goal to end this year on a positive note was achieved! They have certainly earned it, as they have had to attend school under less than normal circumstances.

Principal Janine Napolitano

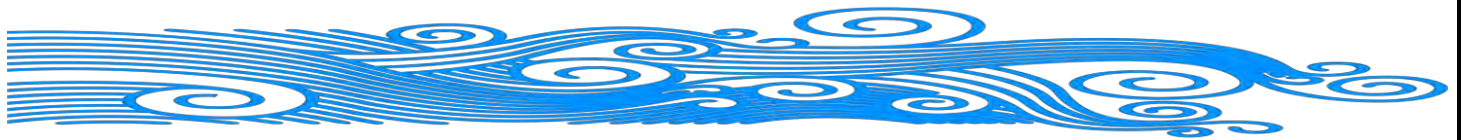


Whelan Elementary School

What a wonderful year at Whelan! This year our students, staff, and parents did an amazing job at staying safe while learning. There were many opportunities for problem solving, independence, and perseverance! Whelan students participated in many virtual and in person events. Our PTO even offered events outside. Students raised funds for a library project! Teachers spent time planning and developing a collaborative learning space for all. We are also looking forward to our library redesign project taking shape for the start of the school year! Our school continues to support social emotional learning and relationship building through our PBIS program! Whelan focused on setting clear expectations and learning about our "SHARKS" Traits! Students practiced self- confidence, honesty, accountability, responsibility, kindness, and self-control.

At Whelan, we ended the year celebrating all of our hard work! Students were able to enjoy field day activities, lunches, and graduations outdoors. Whelan even had a visit from Cali, the Cranston PD therapy dog! Thank you to all of the families, community members, and North Providence School District for your continued support. Have a JAWSOME summer!

Principal Amanda Donovan



The North Providence School Committee is Back In Person!!

Due to the lifting of government regulations regarding crowds and gatherings, the North Providence School Committee will once again be conducting their regularly scheduled monthly meetings in person at The North Providence High School Library. **Meetings will also continue to be available by Zoom Conference. The public can attend in person or virtually. Please note that CDC school safety regulations requires anyone attending the meeting in person must wear a mask.** Each meeting will continue to be recorded and will be available for viewing on the NPSD website or on Youtube @ NPSD School Committee. For information regarding meetings you can visit the District's website or contact the School Committee Secretary in the Superintendent's office @ norma jean.pirri@npsd.k12.ri.us or by calling 401-233-1100, Ext. 11105



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Newsletter distributed by the Office of the Superintendent
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The Mission of the North Providence School District, as an urban ring community with a strong neighborhood identity which recognizes its individual and cultural diversity and its sensitivity to the needs of the community, is to educate its students in a safe, nurturing, and challenging environment for successful entry into industry, business, or higher education by providing them with 21st century skills in academics, communication, technology, and the humanities, holding them to high expectations, and recognizing the needs of individual students in order to ensure they become productive and contributing members of a global society.